

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-13. (cancelled)

14. (previously presented) Wheelchair assembly comprising:

a wheelchair seat for a wheelchair occupant, and a pair of wheels disposed at lateral sides of the seat and being manually rotatable by the wheel chair occupant,

wherein each wheel includes a rim surrounded by a tire, each tire having a tire carcass surrounded by a running profile, and

wherein the running profile of each of the tires is asymmetrically disposed with respect to a tire carcass center plane with portions of at least one of the running profile and carcass disposed laterally outward of a wheel chair in an in use position being configured to be smooth so as to limit chafing of a wheel chair occupant's hands when manually rotating a wheel with said tire mounted thereon.

15. (original) Wheelchair assembly according to claim 14, wherein said wheels are mounted with a predetermined camber of between 9° and 16°.

16. (previously presented) Wheelchair assembly comprising:

a wheelchair seat for a wheelchair occupant, and a pair of wheels disposed at lateral sides of the seat and being manually rotatable by the wheel chair occupant,

wherein each wheel includes a rim surrounded by a tire, each tire having a tire carcass surrounded by a running profile,

wherein the running profile of each of the tires is asymmetrically disposed with respect to a tire carcass center plane with portions of at least one of the running profile and carcass disposed laterally outward of a wheel chair in an in use position being configured to be smooth so as to limit chafing of a wheel chair occupant's hands when manually rotating a wheel with said tire mounted thereon, and

wherein the running profile of each tire is symmetrically configured and arranged laterally offset with respect to the tire center plane by a predetermined offset angle.

17. (original) Wheelchair assembly according to claim 15, wherein the running profile of each tire is symmetrically configured and arranged laterally offset with respect to the tire center plane by a predetermined offset angle; said predetermined offset angle corresponding to a predetermined camber of the respective wheel.

18. (original) Wheelchair assembly according to claim 14, wherein the running profile of each tire is asymmetrically configured with respect to the associated tire carcass center plane.

19. (original) Wheelchair assembly according to claim 15, wherein the running profile of each tire is asymmetrically configured with respect to the associate tire carcass center plane.

20. (previously presented) Wheelchair assembly comprising:
a wheelchair seat for a wheelchair occupant, and a pair of wheels disposed at lateral sides of the seat and being manually rotatable by the wheel chair occupant,

wherein each wheel includes a rim surrounded by a tire, each tire having a tire carcass surrounded by a running profile,

wherein the running profile of each of the tires is asymmetrically disposed with respect to a tire carcass center plane with portions of at least one of the running profile and carcass disposed laterally outward of a wheel chair in an in use position being configured to be smooth so as to limit chafing of a wheel chair occupant's hands when manually rotating a wheel with said tire mounted thereon, and

wherein each tire is provided with a low friction coating on the portions configured to be smooth.

21. (original) Wheelchair assembly according to claim 14, wherein each wheel includes a driving ring manually engageable by the wheelchair occupant to drive the wheel.

22. (canceled)

23. (previously presented) Wheelchair assembly comprising:
a wheelchair seat for a wheelchair occupant, and a pair of wheels disposed at lateral sides of the seat and being manually rotatable by the wheel chair occupant,

wherein each wheel includes a rim surrounded by a tire, each tire having a tire carcass surrounded by a running profile, and

wherein the running profile of each of the tires is asymmetrically disposed with respect to a tire carcass center plane with portions of at least one of the running profile and carcass disposed laterally outward of a wheel chair in an in use position being configured to be smooth so as to limit chafing of a wheel chair occupant's hands when manually rotating a wheel with said tire mounted thereon, and a center of a ground contact area of the tire is substantially aligned with a center of the asymmetric running profile.